

HONOLULU STAR BULLETIN 12 FEB '65



Mrs. Tuyet Shadel, wife of an Embassy doctor . . .

Kent Gillmore, 4, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clinton H. Gillmore.

'e'd Stay, If Had Choice' Vietnam Evacuees Say Here

HELEN ALTONN
oximately 170 evac-
nded on U.S. soil here
from war-torn Viet-
but most of the wive

indicated they would have
remained with their hus-
bands if given a choice.

The women and children
appeared worn out from the

hasty, long trip.

But morale was high and
not a tear was shed as they
discussed the fearful events
in Vietnam and the fathers
and friends left behind.

The Pan American char-
ter flight was scheduled to
arrive at 2 a.m., but didn't
get in until 5½ hours later.

Another was to land at
2:15 p.m. with still a third
one at 10:15 a.m. tomorrow.

Five other evacuation
charter flights, anticipated
during the next few days,

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canceled, apparently
of other arrange

onolulu woman, Mrs.
Watanabe, was
passengers on the
morning plane. She
been in Vietnam for
months.

was met by her sis-
sister Hiyane and her
mother Mrs. Ki-
Watanabe.

grandmother happily
her grandson, Sho,
arms. It was a joy-
union on the baby's
birthday today.
scene at the airport
of confusion with
luggage and boxes
sorted out and assist-
coming from a variety
ilitary and civilian
rs.

little boy was hur-
f to the hospital with
of measles, but oth-
the evacuees ap-
in good health and
red.

ite their
less, the children
d about being turn-
at crates of their be-
bags and watching the
of people
of the women ex-
d deep regret at leav-
etnam.

e said the tension
as bad as one might

two Vietnamese wom-
the group left little
about the fear of their

Thomas Lee Kilby
in Vietnam and now an
ican citizen, said her
ymen were "a little
ky."



Elizabeth Perkins, 3 months, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Perkins.



Cara, 3½, and Dena, 9 months, daughter of Captain and Mrs. H. A. Shockley . . .

She said, "They thought the Americans would leave Vietnam and Red China would be there right away."

"We knew something was going to happen and we were waiting, but we didn't think it would happen so soon."

Mrs. Tuyet Shadel, whose husband is a doctor with the American Embassy in Vietnam, said her people "are very afraid."

She added that she is frightened for her family there but, "I'm very lucky to leave."

She said the Vietnamese are "very happy to have the Americans help them."

Mrs. Lois Scanlon, whose husband is with the Military Advisory Group in Saigon, said she had only been there two weeks but the tension was not bad in the city.

"I guess they (the military) didn't talk much

"I think we all knew we would have to be out of there so they can do what they have to do."

Mrs. Clyde O. Johnson, whose husband is a master sergeant, was ushering her three children into the crowded Customs line.

She said her youngsters, age 6 to 11, "hated to leave Saigon and hated to leave daddy. And we all hate this move very much."

Mrs. Johnson taught at the American School in Saigon and said, "The children were all crying. They didn't want to go because they had made many friends there."

"I, for one, enjoyed it very much."

Nevertheless, she said her family was in the Khindo Theatre bombing "and from then on every little thing frightened us."

"Every little boom made us afraid, but we soon got used to the big sounds."

Miss Beverly Elson also taught in the school and said she noticed that the tension since Christmas had sifted through to the youngsters' studies.

A new gymnasium had opened and functioned only two days before the school was closed Monday, she said.

"I understand it is now re-
hospital."

She said the children lis-



Mrs. Kazuo Watanabe

knew what was going on. It was impossible to conduct a normal class."

"I really want to go back. Everyone wanted to stay," said Mrs. John O'Reilly, whose husband is a civilian attached to the military.

Little Jennisse Jonas, 7, clutched an enormous doll and watched the activity with wide eyes.

Does she miss her daddy?

"A little bit," she replied, adding that she plans to write him letters when she reaches California with her mother and three brothers.

Mrs. Jonas said her hus-
tain (chaplain) had been call-
ed away from home quite of-

She described the move as "sudden and frightening."

She said "the situation has been nerve-wracking but it took us awhile to realize that this was it."

Robert Reardon, 13, who has lived in Saigon for three years and speaks good Vietnamese, said he had made many friends among the native children.

"I didn't want to leave until after school," he said. "I'm sorry to leave my friends."

His mother, Mrs. Eugene Reardon, said the family lived in a Vietnamese neighborhood and the children could sense the trouble.

"They seemed to have a sense of security with the American families there," she said. "They displayed fear with the families leaving. The departure was a sad event for them."

As for herself, she added, "I would have liked to have remained with my husband."

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